



South Carolina

Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University
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Clemson University
SC State Climatology Office
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GENERAL

With the exception of a few isolated rain showers, much of South Carolina saw very dry conditions and above average temperatures this past week. Intense heat with no rain has caused a severe and rapid decline in non-irrigated row crops. Up until now, growers were expecting a big, bumper crop due to wet conditions during the spring season. Farmers are now focusing their attention on the high temperatures and lack of rain. Immediate rainfall is needed for many growers to forestall continued decline in yield potential and crop condition. As expected, South Carolina's soil moisture ratings declined and were 4% very short, 30% short, 65% adequate, and 1% surplus. There was a statewide average of 6.6 days that were suitable for field work.

FIELD CROPS

Eighty-nine percent of the **CORN** crop had tasseled and 27% had continued to dough this past week which remains ahead of the five-year average. Some corn was twisting in the fields as the lack of rain continues to stress the crop. **TOBACCO** fared slightly better with drier conditions and had put on some weight. Tobacco topping continued at a very rapid pace and some farmers had just begun harvesting. With more days suitable for field work, **WINTER WHEAT** and **OAT** harvesting made significant gains this past week. South Carolina's entire **COTTON** crop for 2009 had been planted. Thirty percent of cotton had squared. Cotton conditions declined this past week and were reported at 3% poor, 40% fair, 55% good, and 2% excellent. Eighty-three percent of **SOYBEANS** had emerged and the crop was just beginning to bloom. Conditions were 2% poor, 24% fair, 73% good, and 1% excellent. Thirty percent of **PEANUTS** had pegged and remained in mostly good condition.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions were unchanged from the previous week and were 24% fair, 74% good, and 2% excellent. **PASTURE** conditions suffered from the lack of rain and were 4% poor, 31% fair, 62% good and 3% excellent. Eighty-four percent of **CUCUMBERS** had been harvested which is still a bit behind schedule. Harvest of **TOMATOES** is continuing on schedule. Conditions remained mostly good for the crop. Twenty-four percent of **WATERMELONS** had been harvested. **CANTALOUPE** harvesting continued at a steady pace. Conditions were 5% poor, 51% fair, and 44% good. Twenty-nine percent of **PEACHES** had been harvested and conditions for the crop were mostly good.

Crop Progress for Week Ending June 28, 2009

Crop and Stage	2009	2008	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2009	2008	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup, Harvested	43	38	44	Snapbeans, Fresh, Harvested	78	79	76
Corn, Silked	89	75	83	Soybeans, Planted	96	95	94
Corn, Doughed	27	12	24	Soybeans, Emerged	83	80	85
Cotton, Planted	100	100	100	Soybeans, Bloomed	1	1	4
Cotton, Squared	30	24	38	Tobacco, Topped	62	24	39
Cucumbers, Fresh, Harvested	84	94	92	Tobacco, Harvested	4	0	0
Oats, Harvested	98	98	91	Tomatoes, Fresh, Harvested	56	49	54
Peaches, Harvested	29	33	28	Watermelons, Harvested	24	32	29
Peanuts, Pegged	30	23	28	Winter Wheat, Harvested	88	96	92

Condition for Week Ending June 28, 2009

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup	0	5	51	44	0	Peaches	0	2	24	74	0
Corn	0	3	29	60	8	Peanuts	0	0	29	70	1
Cotton	0	3	40	55	2	Snapbeans	0	0	35	60	5
Cucumbers	0	0	30	50	20	Soybeans	0	2	24	73	1
Hay	5	3	26	64	2	Tobacco	0	3	32	62	3
Livestock	0	0	24	74	2	Tomatoes	0	1	17	82	0
Pasture	0	4	31	62	3	Watermelons	0	1	42	57	0

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending June 28, 2009

A body of drier, continental-sourced air entered the state early in the week. There were a few lone showers reported on its arrival with a lone exception of a heavy downpour of 1.63 inches of rain at the US Forest Service gage at Jackson, in Aiken County. Sunrise temperatures on Tuesday morning cooled into the 60's. A stretch of hot weather began on Wednesday, underneath the fourteen-hour sunshine days and continued through Sunday. Fast drying was observed throughout the State. A 24-hour open pan evaporation water loss of 0.39 inches was measured at Barnwell and Sandhill on Thursday. A short-lived thunderstorm near Eadytown in Berkeley County produced a 56 mph wind gust Friday afternoon. On Saturday, Manning and Barnwell noted a maximum temperature of 101 degrees. The Clemson Airport recorded 98 degrees. Heavy rains accompanied a thunderstorm over the Charleston peninsula on Saturday and a brief tornado skipped through the Hanahan community with light damage. The State average temperature for the period was four degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 102 degrees at Johnston on June 27. The lowest official temperature reported was 62 degrees at Chesnee on June 23. The heaviest 24-hour rainfall reported was 2.37 inches at Charleston City ending at 7:00 a.m. on June 28. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.2 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 83 degrees, Charleston 84 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near normal. Ocean water temperatures at the Edisto Buoy were reported at 84 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for Year	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.11	24.72	-1.0
Columbia	0.00	19.30	-4.6
Orangeburg	0.36	22.53	-1.4
Charlotte, NC	0.00	24.45	2.7
Augusta, GA	0.30	21.60	-1.5
Florence	0.00	19.29	-1.9
N Myrtle Beach	0.26	16.75	-2.7
Charleston	0.79	22.19	-0.9
Savannah, GA	0.29	27.83	5.3

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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